

The Inns, Public Houses and Breweries of Bedhampton



The Golden Lion, 2006.

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PREFACE

Inns and Public Houses An Early History and General View

In Saxon times Tabernae, wooden huts or booths, were built at the roadside and advertised themselves by means of a long pole. An evergreen bush was attached if wine was available together with ale. This custom may have originated from the Romans. Ale and Mead were probably brewed and sold on the premises.

Monasteries were established after the arrival of Christianity and these were required to provide for travellers with the building of hospices close to the abbey, monastery or where travellers came together. From these establishments, Inns and Hotels have their roots. During the 8th century houses were set up by the public to provide food and refreshment and were known as - Taverns, derived from the Latin taberna. They were more upmarket than local drinking places which became to be known as alehouses. By the 16th century taverns and alehouses were recognised in law by the way they were licensed and obligations on the licensee. However there were regional variations. In the North and parts of the West, most premises were called Inns and their licensees Innkeepers. After Charles II came to the throne alehouses gradually became known as public houses and the less successful Inns and taverns went into decline.

In common with other tradesmen of the time, inns, taverns and alehouses advertised their business with a sign hanging outside. From the 14th century inns and taverns hung out a pictorial sign by which they could be identified in this illiterate age. In the 16th century many alehouses followed suit. The tradition has continued for licensed premises, since they were exempt from the Georgian restrictions on hanging signs. The earliest signs used motifs drawn from heraldry, but by Georgian times there was greater variety.

By the mid-18th century larger alehouses were becoming common, while inns beside the major highways grew in grandeur and new ones sprang up in this coaching era. The term alehouse was gradually replaced by public house during the 18th century. Taverns meanwhile were being replaced by or converted into coffee-houses as social centres for the wealthier classes. The

first English hotel was built in Exeter in 1768, but the term was rare before 1800.

From the late eighteenth century brewers were beginning to acquire licensed premises as an outlet for their products, thus guaranteeing reasonable sales of beer. This came to a head in the mid nineteenth century due to the 1830 Beerhouse Act, brought in to combat the rise in spirit drinking, which resulted in a growth of the number of beerhouses opening and brewing their own wares. This and the 1869 Wine and Beerhouse Act, which brought stricter control of licenses caused brewers to revise their policies. After the date of the last Act the majority of drinking establishments, be it beerhouses, taverns or inns, were then affiliated to, or for the most part, owned by the brewing companies themselves.

With the coming of the railways, a number of hotels were built close to railway stations. Some of the grandest were beside the great London terminuses, such as the Midland Grand Hotel (1874), St Pancras Station, Euston Road, designed by Sir George Gilbert Scott (1811-1878) in the Gothic Revival style. Coaching inns declined, though some were able to mutate into public houses or hotels, which flourished in the later 20th century along with the motor car, one fine local example being the Bear Hotel in Havant

Much has been made of what was an inn, tavern or an old fashioned alehouse. Most at the end of the day served the local population or passer-by with alcoholic refreshment and certainly by the mid nineteenth century the exact meaning of each establishment came under the general heading of a public house. Many of course offered a meal or a bed for the night or acted as a coaching stop or post house which set them apart from their rivals. It is too easy to confuse the difference between what was an inn or a more upmarket beerhouse because many offered the same services. Bedhampton, for example, had the Belmont Tavern but this in the true meaning of the word was no more than a mid nineteenth century beerhouse offering stabling and probably a meal for its customers.

*Beer! Happy produce of our isle,
Can sinewy strength impart,
And, wearied with fatigue and toil,
Can cheer each manly heart*

Rev. J. Townley

*When you have lost your inns, drown your empty selves,
For you have lost the last of England.*

Hilaire Belloc

*The English beer is best in all Europe...
it was necessary to drink two or three pots of beer during our parley;
for no kind of business is transacted in England without
the intervention of pots of beer.*

Jarevin de Rochefort, 1672

Bedhampton

The old manor and parish of Bedhampton contained 2,400 acres. It was an almost perfect rectangle with narrow sides running east-west, the larger sides running north-south. The total area includes four islands in Langstone Harbour and a small part of Havant lies within the boundary. It is first mentioned in the ninth century when King Egbert granted the manor of Bedhampton to the cathedral church of Winchester, However, at the time of the Domesday Survey in 1086 Hugh de Port held it of the abbey.

During the middle ages the great feature of Bedhampton was its park; the property of the lord of the manor, and almost certainly created by Hugh de Port in the years after the conquest.

The lower part of the village of Bedhampton centres on the church of St Thomas with its large 18th and 19th century properties such as Bidbury House, The Elms, The Manor House and The Rectory. Close to the village stood the large Belmont Park Estate and Belmont Towers (Castle).

There are numerous springs in the village, including St Chad's Well, being supposed to possess the most health-giving virtues. This water was no doubt used in the making of beer at the various public houses. Most of the springs today are used by Portsmouth Water Company.

Today Bedhampton is much changed, the area close to the church still retains its village feel, but the outlying part of Bedhampton now consists of areas of modern development.

The Inns, Public Houses and Breweries of Bedhampton

Steve Jones

Various records show that there have been at least ten public houses, inns, or beerhouses in, or close to the village of Bedhampton, with probably others going unrecorded. Over the centuries many have disappeared but now only four public houses remain.

THE GOLDEN LION,

Situated on Bedhampton Road, The Golden Lion, Bedhampton's most historic public house, is first recorded in 1722 when it is under the control of William Millett,¹ who is recorded as a 'Vittualler at the Golden Lyon'. On the 21st May 1760, the lease of the inn for 21 years, passed to William Cook, described as a brewer of Bedhampton. The property being described at this time as: *The Golden Lion, Bedhampton, and brewhouse, outhouses, garden and hop ground*,¹ suggesting the inn was not just producing its own beer but growing hops as well as part of the beer making process.

On the 4th April 1792, the Golden Lion, along with 16 other public houses, including The George, Portsdown, and the Black Dog, Emsworth, were conveyed for the grand price of £12 1s. from Henry Coles, Common Brewer of Hambledon, to Mr. Henry Mullens, Gent. of Hambledon. The Golden Lion was described as: *All that public house known by the sign of the Golden Lion situated at Bedhampton in the occupation of Joseph Stoneham*.²

¹ Lease for 21 years of the Golden Lion Inn, Bedhampton & brewhouse, outhouses, garden & hop ground, 21th May 1760. i. William Millett of Blendworth, Merchant ii. William Cook of Bedhampton, Brewer. HRO 27A01/B1/2/24
In a Directory for Havant, 1784, William Cook is described as a 'Maltster.'

² H.R.O. 50M82/1 Conveyance of Public Houses. Included in the conveyance was Hambledon Brewery, The Bat & Ball, Broadhalfpenny Down, the Vine, Hambledon, Coach & Horses, Hilsea, Lady Louisa, Cosham, Coach & Horses, Compton, George, Finchdean, Anchor, Horndean amongst others.
The extraordinary price of £12 1s. cannot be fully explained.

It is probable that the inn is a lot older than the dates mentioned, though the present inn building dates from the early nineteenth century.³ Legend has it that the inn takes its name from King Edward I, who visited Bedhampton on 25th May 1297, but it is more than likely that the name comes from the Tudor monarchs, Henry VII and Henry VIII.⁴ The inn sits on a prominent position, formerly part of the Chichester/Cosham turnpike road and appears to have been a centre of local activity for the area with property sales and other business dealings such as the regular auction sales of coppice wood and under wood from nearby Bedhampton Park taking place on the premises throughout the nineteenth century as local newspaper advertisements testify.⁵ It is almost certain that business dealings were carried on prior to this and also later into the twentieth century. As was the custom of the day the premises were also used by the County Coroner for inquests, such as example two that were held at the inn, including one in March 1878 after the body of a man was found drowned in a pond in Bidbury Meadow.⁶ The *Hampshire Telegraph* throughout the nineteenth century was a rich source of information regarding the activities that were carried on at the Golden Lion as the following examples show:

³ English Heritage Grade Listed II (21st July 1975) Early 19th cent. Stucco with a tiled roof. Plain symmetrical front (south) of 2 storeys and attic, 3 windows (centre blank). Bracketed eaves. 1st floor band, plinth. Ground floor sashes, 1st floor Victorian sashes. Simple doorcase, with a canopy on brackets, architrave, and half glazed door.

⁴ Although the lion appears in royal heraldry from an early date it is unlikely that it is associated with Edward I whose badge was a golden rose with a green stalk. (*John Pile*).

⁵ What was sold to the highest bidder was the permission to cut and sell the coppice poles and underwood in specific areas of a coppice woodland.

⁶ *Hampshire Telegraph*, 16th March 1878.

County Court Inquests were nearly always carried out at the nearest public building and in most cases the nearest public house to the actual event in case.

BEDHAMPTON, HANTS, TO HOOP MAKERS & OTHERS

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. King, on Thursday, the 27th of October, 1831, at the Golden Lion Inn, Bedhampton, at four o'clock in the afternoon, in four Lots, tythe free, - About twelve acres of excellent UNDERWOOD, of eleven years growth, standing in Nevolds (sic) Park Coppice, Bedhampton Park. For a view, apply to Mr. John Osmond, Bedhampton Park.

Hampshire Telegraph, 24th October 1831⁷

TO TIMBER MERCHANTS, SHIP BUILDERS, & OTHERS

Four hundred and thirty-one good Oak and Three Ash Trees, with Lop, Top, and Bark, standing on the Lower Park Estate, Bedhampton, within a few miles of Emsworth Wharf.

TO be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. King, on Wednesday, the 19th day of April, 1839 at Two o'clock in the afternoon, at the Golden Lion Inn, Bedhampton, in three Lots (subject to such conditions of Sale as shall then and there be produced.)

Lot 1. – 145 Good Oak Trees, standing in Nevil's Park, numbered with a rase from 1 to 145 inclusive, and Three Ash Trees No. from one to three inclusive.

Lot 2. – 165 Oak Trees, numbered with a rase, from 1 to 165 inclusive.

Lot 3. – 111 Ditto, numbered with a rase, from 1 to 111 inclusive, also 10 ditto in the Thirty Acres numbered from 1 to 10 inclusive.

The whole of the trees are hammered J.S. of good length and quality, well calculated for plank and cleaving.

For a view to John Baker, the baliff, Lower Park Farm, or of Mr. P. Osmond, Bedhampton; of whom particulars may be known; or of the Auctioneers, Emsworth.

Hampshire Telegraph, 6th April 1839

⁷ This is Nevilles Park on the Lewis' map 1833 and Neville's Park on OS maps. The reference to hoop making is very interesting as the hoops were used on barrels to contain dry goods.

BEDHAMPTON

NEAT Pair Horse Fly with Landau Body and shifting Rumble behind, Lamps etc., also a neat Four-wheel Chaise with shifting Seats, Lamps, Etc. – The above are neatly painted in excellent condition, and fit for immediate use. Also clever Hack Mare, good in Harness, or Saddle, Double and Single brass mounted Harness, Saddle, Bridles, etc.

Also the neat Household Furniture and Effects, at the GOLDEN LION INN, Bedhampton, which will be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. W. Binstead, on the Premises, on Tuesday, April the 27th, 1847.

Hampshire Telegraph, 17th April 1847

BEDHAMPTON – A MAN FOUND DEAD IN POND

Edgar Goble, Esq., one of the Coroners for the County of Hants, held an inquest on Tuesday afternoon, at the Golden Lion Inn, Bedhampton, on the body of a man unknown, which was found in a pond in Bidbury Meadow, Bedhampton, at ten o'clock on Monday morning. William Wedge, a miller, living at Upper Mill, Bedhampton, deposed that on the morning in question two boys came to him and told him that there was a dead body in Bedbury Dell Pond, which was situate close to the village. There was a footpath across the field, and a road by the side of it, from which anyone could see that there was a pond. On going to the pond he found the deceased lying in the water, with his face partly downwards. His hat was lying in the meadow near the pond. His body was that of a man about 45 years of age, and was dressed in a dark coat and dark trousers. There were no marks of violence upon the body, and no indication of a scuffle having taken place near the pond. A boy named Joseph Stapley, who first saw the body, gave similar evidence. P.S. Byles, by whose direction the body was removed to the Golden Lion Inn, deposed to finding a pawn ticket and some papers upon the body, but he failed to get the deceased identified. Mr. Brooks, surgeon of Fareham, who had examined the body, said it was apparently that of a man who had seen better days. There were no marks of violence, except three slight abrasions on the skin, which might have been produced by his removal from the pond.

The jury returned an open verdict of "Found Drowned."

Hampshire Telegraph, 16th March 1878

FOUND DROWNED – An inquest was held at the Golden Lion public house, Bedhampton, on Tuesday, before Edgar Goble, Esq., County Coroner, referring to the man whose body was found in the Lower Bedhampton Mill Pond on Sunday Morning. Charles Lunn, working at the Chemical Works, Stamshaw, said he saw the description of the deceased in the Evening News, and he now identified the body as that of his brother James Lunn, aged 29 years, who had also been employed at the Chemical Works for the past eleven years. He had drunk occasionally, but never neglected his work through drink until Monday of last week. Since then he had not been to work. He was at the Chemical Works on Thursday, and witness asked him when he was going to return to work? He replied "not before next Monday." He had not seen the deceased since, till he identified the body. Thomas Pearcey corroborated. Dr. Norman proved having made a post-mortem examination. He found most of the organs healthy. His opinion was that death was caused by drowning. There were no marks of violence. The jury returned a verdict of found drowned, and that there was not sufficient evidence to prove how the deceased came into the water. They added a rider to the effect that the pathways leading to the millstream ought to have better protected.

Hampshire Telegraph 19th December 1891

By the time of the Tithe Award for Bedhampton in 1845 it is recorded that George and Robert Henty are the owners of the inn with George Temple as the occupier. George Henty was a Chichester brewer, and it was the Henty brewery which until 1955 supplied the inn with beer.⁸ When Henty & Constable were bought by Tamplins Brewery in 1955 the Golden Lion was acquired by the Friary (Meux) Brewery of Guildford, now part of the Phoenix Brewery, Brighton.

⁸ George Henty, incorporated in 1893 as George Henty and Sons Ltd. In 1921 Henty's merged with G S Constable and Sons Ltd (incorporated 1904). The resultant Company was thereafter known as Henty and Constable (Brewers) Ltd. In the 1845 Tithe Schedule the Golden Lion is recorded under the ownership of George & Robert Henty. The occupier is George Temple – Innkeeper.

A Match at Cricket between eleven gentlemen of Havant and eleven gentlemen of Chichester, was played in Kingly Vale, about four miles from the latter place, on Tuesday last. Much excellent play was shown on both sides, and the weather being fine, a great number of visitors were attracted to the scene. The refreshments, which were supplied by Temple, of the Golden Lion Inn, Bedhampton, were abundant, and of first rate quality.

Hampshire Advertiser & Salisbury Guardian, 9th July 1842

Of the various innkeepers of the Golden Lion two families stand out. Firstly, the Lipscomb family – Robert Lipscomb is recorded as a Victualler at the Golden Lion in the census for Bedhampton in 1851, age 50, and at the age of 81 he is still recorded as an innkeeper at the inn in the census for 1881.⁹ At his death in 1890 the licence for a short period passed to his niece Esther Matthews. Another long serving family were the Messum family – Charles Messum is recorded in the 1901 census for Bedhampton, age 50; he in turn was succeeded by his wife Hannah, who kept the inn for many years before the start of the Second World War. Today The Golden Lion is a family run public house catering for families and locals alike with a restaurant and regular live music events.

It would appear that the principal public houses of Bedhampton, excluding the Belmont Tavern, all at one stage brewed their own beer on their premises. Three brewers are recorded in Bedhampton in the early 1850s, all connected to specific inns; James Gad at the Kings Head was previously recorded as a brewer in Homewell Lane, Havant (to the rear of the Robin Hood public house) and also at the Four Quarter Brewery at the Fountain Inn in West Street; Noah King (1803–74), was brewing and retailing from the Crown, close to the chalk-pit in Bedhampton (1851 census) along with his son Edmund (b.1831) who was also recorded as a brewer in Bedhampton; Thomas Tibble, with his wife Sarah, was brewing at his premises at the

⁹ Robert Lipscomb (1801–90). In the 1861 census for Bedhampton Robert Lipscomb's son George is recorded as a Victualler at the Golden Lion. George Lipscomb married 1860 Sarah Agnes Tibble, the daughter of Thomas & Sarah Tibble, Brewers of Bedhampton (Wheelwright's Arms).

Wheelwright's Arms.¹⁰ Prior to this the Golden Lion was producing its own beer but by 1842 it had come under the control of Chichester brewer George Henty who would have supplied the inn with its beer.

It appeared that Noah King hit financial problems with his brewing business because notably in February 1854 he conveyed his '*real and personal estate and effects*' to Henry Jarman, miller and maltster of Denmead, George Rake, Hop Dealer of Langstone, and George Palmer of Stockheath, and other creditors after being declared bankrupt (see *The Times*, 24th Feb. 1854). In April 1854, the brewery was put up for sale but it would appear Noah King's son Edmund carried on brewing in Bedhampton after this date until the brewery was finally sold off in July 1862.

By 1867 another brewery was opened in Bedhampton, this time at the Prince of Wales beerhouse by Portsmouth brewer Henry Denton Davy, although the brewery would appear to have more of a connection with Havant rather than Bedhampton. By 1890 the brewery was known as the Havant Brewery Co. Ltd., Cygnet Brewery under the management of Douglas Hoskin until 1906 when it was acquired by Gosport Brewers Biden & Co Ltd and renamed Biden & Co. Ltd, Cygnet Brewery. None the less it was the last brewery to close in the Bedhampton and Havant area when it finally ceased brewing on the site in July 1922.

As the nineteenth century progressed the majority of the public houses in Bedhampton came under the control of the larger brewing companies and as the twentieth century approached there was a notable decline in the number of public houses in the village. One reason for this could certainly have been the closure of certain beerhouses which opened up at the time of the building of fortifications on Portsdown Hill in the 1860s and closed some time after the building work had finished.

¹⁰ Thomas Tibble (1811–62) & Sarah Tibble (1804–68). Sarah Tibble was the daughter of Thomas (c.1779–1848) & Sarah Bone (1784–1859) Sarah Bone, and probably Thomas Bone were brewing at the site of the Wheelwright's Arms prior to Thomas & Sarah Tibble. See the Wheelwright's Arms.

Locally the authorities and the parishioners wished to see a reduction in the number of inns and beerhouses in Bedhampton and in August 1866, at a Vestry meeting, it was decreed that the number of inns and beerhouses in the parish be '*reduced rather than increased which is in accordance with the desire of the Authorities – as understood by the Parishioners*'. (see Sherborne Arms). As trade directories for Bedhampton for the rest of the nineteenth century and into the twentieth show this was the case:

Beer Retailers, Publicans & Brewers in Bedhampton from Trade Directories. (Not including the Prince of Wales).

| 1844 | 1855 | 1865 | 1875 | 1890 | 1900 | 1920 |
|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 2 |

Directory of Bedhampton, 1855

Mrs Sarah Bone – Beer Retailer
 James Gad – Kings Head & Brewer
 Noah King – Beer Retailer & Brewer
 Robert Lipscombe – Golden Lion

Directory of Bedhampton, 1865

James Gad – Kings Head & Brewer
 Andrew B. Hatch – Brewer etc
 Robert Lipscombe – Golden Lion
 Thomas Pettit – Beer Retailer & Shopkeeper
 Mrs Sarah Tibble – Beer Retailer

Directory of Bedhampton, 1875

Benjamin Buck – Belmont Tavern
 Robert Lipscombe – Golden Lion
 George Porter – Beer Retailer
 William Symes – King's Head

Directory of Bedhampton, 1878

Robert Lipscombe – Golden Lion

William Loten – Beerhouse (Wheelwright's Arms)

Aaron Sharp – Victualler, Belmont Tavern

James Vincent – Victualler, King's Head

Directory of Bedhampton, 1901

James Duke – Golden Lion

William Parvin – Belmont Tavern

William Pettitt – Wheelwright's Arms

THE PRINCE OF WALES

The parish boundary between Bedhampton and Havant ran along the centre of the Hermitage Stream as far as the railway line, then down the west side of Staunton Road and curved across to West Street and along the north side of West Street to Boundary Way.

This meant that the Prince of Wales was in Havant, but if you came out of the front door of the pub to go to Havant you stepped across Staunton Road in to Bedhampton. The Prince of Wales was so close to the boundary that no doubt most people regarded it as being in Bedhampton, which is why it is included here.

The Prince of Wales was for many years associated with brewing in Havant. The pub itself was probably built close to around the middle of the 19th century but the present building may have replaced an earlier beerhouse on the site. An advertisement for a sale on the 3 November 1853 at the Dolphin Inn, Havant records:

A COPYHOLD DWELLING HOUSE, situate in the West Street, Havant, known by the name of the "Prince of Wales," now in the occupation of Henry Elliott, at a yearly rental of £13.

Two years earlier, in the census of 1851, James Veal, a widower of 35, and recorded as a beer retailer, is occupying a property in West Street, with Henry Elliott and his family as lodgers.¹⁸ It is unclear if this was the same

property but various beer retailers are recorded in unnamed properties in West Street until the new Prince of Wales public house came into being.

Like the White Hart, the Prince of Wales is another fine example of Victorian public house architecture, with its green glazed brickwork. From its opening in about 1867 until closure in 1922 the brewery attached to the pub produced for over fifty years beer for the neighbourhood. Originally the brewery was under the control of the Davey family with Thomas T. Davey probably the first licensee of the new public house. Later the public house, along with brewery, came under the control of Sutton Bros. of Chichester and finally Biden & Co. Cygnet Brewery until the closure of the brewery in 1922. Until its demolition to make way for modern housing the brewery buildings were used by the Home Service Laundry and Initial Industrial Cleaning, both making use of the brewery's old well.

One of the more colourful landlords of the pub was Frederick Bullock, who held the licence from before the First World War until about 1930. Frederick's brother, Charles William Bullock, (1885–1963), known by his middle name of William or Billy, was a prominent jockey of the day and won both the Derby and The Oaks on the Italian filly Signoretta in 1908. The odds in the Derby were 100–1. William came from a well known northern family of riders; his uncle, Ralph, had won the Derby in 1861 on Kettledrum. He was apprenticed to Tom Brukshaw in Middleham, Yorkshire and his two classic wins were the highlight of his career. After WWI William went to Denmark where he was the leading jockey from 1924–28. Later he rode in Germany and then returned to England as work jockey at the Malton stable of Capt. Charles Elsey.

HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS

WILFUL DAMAGE, THE PRINCE OF WALES, HAVANT

Eli Beaton, of Havant, was summoned for wilfully and maliciously breaking a pane of plate glass at the Prince of Wales Inn, Havant, on November 6th. The defendant did not appear, and it is believed he has left the town. The evidence of Mr. Watson, the landlord, and James Bayley, who witnessed the occurrence, showed that the defendant deliberately threw a stone and broke the window. It is that the act was one of spite. The

Bench ordered the defendant to pay the damage 25s, besides 10s. fine, and the costs; in default 21 days hard labour. Admiral O'Callaghan said that looking at the antecedents of the defendant, who had been convicted seven times previously, he was afraid that the prosecutor would get no recompense, as defendant, when caught, would probably prefer going to gaol.

Hampshire Telegraph, 20th November 1880

THE "LITTLE BARREL" IN THE CORNER

THE PRINCE OF WALES, HAVANT

George Slater was charged with selling adulterated rum. – On the 21st of May P.S. McLaughlin visited the defendant's house the Prince of Wales, Havant and there purchased three quarters of rum for 1s. 3d. from a "little barrel in the corner." He told the defendant that he wanted the liquor for analysis, upon which he remarked that "he would find it pretty good." On one of three samples, however, being forwarded to the public analysis at Southampton it was certified as being 29.08 under proof, or 4.08 below the recognised standard. The defendant alleged that he had made a mistake in reducing the liquor, but he was fined 5s. 6d. and 23s. 4d. costs.

Hampshire Telegraph, 15th June 1889

HAVANT

SUDDEN DEATH – An inquest was held on Tuesday at the Prince of Wales Inn, by L. Warner Esq., Deputy Coroner, touching the death of Joseph Alfred Herridge, age 35, late of Ranelagh Road, Brockhampton. Deceased was for many years the head-gardener in the employ of Mr F.G. Foster. He had rheumatic fever 16 years ago. On Sunday morning Mrs Herridge heard him groaning and found that he was unconscious. She bathed his face with cold water and he then expired. Dr. Norman was of the opinion that death was due to heart disease, and the jury returned a verdict of death from natural causes.

Hampshire Telegraph, 19th July 1890

The Prince of Wales Brewery

(Biden & Co. Cygnet Brewery) West Street

The last Havant brewery to close, Biden & Co. Ltd Cygnet Brewery came into being around 1867 and was associated for many years with the Prince of Wales public house. Amid various name changes the brewery finally closed in July 1922.

The brewery was initially known as the Prince of Wales Brewery, under the patronage and management of former Portsmouth brewer Henry Denton Davey (Davey & Long) and his son Henry Thomas Davey. The Prince of Wales public house itself dates from around the middle of the nineteenth century and started life as a beerhouse probably producing beer on site for its customers. By 1871 the Davey family were employing nine men and one boy at the brewery (Havant census 1871) and no doubt selling its beer to a wider public.

In April 1872, the brewery was acquired by Chichester and Chidham brewers Sutton Bros (Algernon, Charles and Herbert Arthur), who ran it for eight years before disposing of the business to Arthur Chaplin Nance (Nance was the son of Alderman Andrew Nance JP a brewer of Portsmouth) in March 1880. In the census for 1881 Nance was employing four men at the brewery site under the new name of the Cygnet Brewery and residing next door to his brewery in Staunton Road.

By 1890 the brewery was known as the Havant Brewery Co. Ltd, Cygnet Brewery under the management of Douglas Hoskin until 1906 when it was acquired by Gosport Brewers Biden & Co. Ltd and renamed Biden & Co. Ltd, Cygnet Brewery. The brewery supplied various public houses in the area including the Royal Oak at Langstone, the Yew Tree, Hayling Island, and the Prince of Wales itself among other pubs. It finally ceased brewing on the site in July 1922 after Biden & Co. along with their 43 public houses, were acquired by the Portsmouth United Brewery (merged with Brickwoods Ltd 1953), ending centuries of brewing within the town of Havant. The brewery buildings, which relied on two wells for their water, were, after brewing ceased, used by a steam laundry for many years and were later demolished to make way for modern housing.

OUTING – On Wednesday the Employees and tenants of Mr A. C. Nance, of the Cygnet Brewery, with a large party of friends, numbering altogether over a hundred, had their annual outing. The arrangements, which were excellent, were carried out by Mr Preston Watson, of the Prince of Wales Hotel. The party started at 10 a.m., and, accompanied by a brass band, proceeded via Westbourne and Chichester to Waterbeach, where a beautiful spread was partaken of. The usual loyal and patriotic toasts being duly honoured, the party proceeded to amuse themselves. Returning to Havant at about ten the remainder of the evening was spent in harmony, and some very good songs were sung. At 11 o'clock the party dispersed, having greatly enjoyed their day's pleasure.

Hampshire Telegraph, 16th August 1884

“PRINCE OF WALES” BREWERY, WEST STREET, HAVANT.

H.D. DAVEY, having disposed of his business to Messrs. Sutton Bros, begs to thank the Public and his Friends for the support he has received from them for the last 35 years, and trusts that a continuance of it may be afforded to his successors.

PRINCE OF WALES BREWERY, HAVANT

K Family Pale Ale

Sutton Bros, ALE, STOUT, and PORTER BREWERS, beg to call attention to their first class Pale Ale, brewed expressly for family use, and forwarded per own drays to all parts of the neighbourhood in casks of:

| | | | |
|------------|----------|--------|------|
| 4½ Gallons | 4s. 6d. | (22½p) | Nett |
| 9 Gallons | 9s. 0d. | (45p) | Nett |
| 18 Gallons | 18s. 0d. | (90p) | Nett |

Orders by post punctually attended to.

Hampshire Telegraph 18th April 1872

THE RUSTY CUTTER

The Rusty Cutter is a fairly new purpose-built public house and restaurant situated in Bedhampton Hill Road¹¹ just off junction 5 of the A3(M). It belongs to the Beefeater chain of public houses and restaurants, and mainly caters for diners with a Premier Inn close by for overnight accommodation. It reopened in May 2009 following a refurbishment and has the advantage of fine views towards the coast of Langstone Harbour and Farlington marshes.

THE SWAN INN

Though it serves the surrounding Leigh Park Estate, technically this public house, situated in Jessie Road, is located in the old parish of Bedhampton. Opened in 1954 by Brickwoods Brewery it was designed by J.V. Nisbet who was the architect of many of Brickwood's public houses of this era. The Swan having being closed for a period is now thriving and has retained its original name.

THE LOST INNS OF BEDHAMPTON

THE WHEELWRIGHT'S ARMS

Located close to the Golden Lion on the eastside of Bedhampton Road, the Wheelwright's Arms came into being as a beerhouse sometime before 1852 and probably took its name from a nearby wheelwrighting business.¹² At a manorial court (Court Baron)¹³ for Bedhampton on the 23rd August 1852 we get the first mention of the property when Edward Frank, of Rhyader, Shropshire, surrendered to Thomas Tibble, of Bedhampton, Brewer, and Sarah his wife:

¹¹ Andrew Bone Hatch (d.1882), Emsworth Miller, Farmer & Merchant. May have taken over the ownership of the King's brewery in the sale of 1862.

¹² No references can be found linking the Wheelwright's Arms with a wheelwright's business but certainly from the mid 1850s wheelwrights are recorded in directories for Bedhampton.

¹³ Manorial Court – Court Baron which enforced the customs of the manor. It was part of the property of the lord and was a private jurisdiction.

All that one messuage and one garden with the appurtenances on part of which said garden a brewhouse hath lately been erected and is now standing and which said messuage and premises are now called by the name or sign of "The Wheelwright's Arms" and are now in the occupation of Sarah Bone, widow.

It would appear that brewing took place on the site before Thomas and Sarah Tibble acquired the premises. One suggestion is that Sarah Bone, the occupier at the time of the surrender to Thomas Tibble, and also the mother of Sarah Tibble, was brewing here with her husband Thomas before this. This is confirmed in the census for Bedhampton for 1851 when it records: *Sarah Bone, age 67, brewer, living next door to Thomas Tibble, age 40, brewer, and Sarah Tibble, age 46.* Brewing was carried on by the Bone/Tibble family but it appears to have been a short lived affair, ceasing sometime after Thomas Tibble's death in 1862 and fully by the time of Sarah Tibble's death in June 1868.¹⁴ This is borne out as prior to Sarah Tibble's death when at another Court Baron, on the 24th January 1868, it is recorded; *'Admission of Sarah Tibble, widow, Sarah Agnes Lipscomb (nee' Tibble), George Henry Lipscomb (in right of his wife) of one messuage and one garden, known as the Wheelwright's Arms,'* there being no sign of a brewhouse mentioned.¹⁵ To add to the confusion even further the Wheelwrights Arms was even put up for sale in August 1867 but this event never took place as the sale was inexplicably postponed.

¹⁴ The Census for Bedhampton for 1841 has Thomas Bone, age 60, Sarah Bone, age 55, Thomas Tibble, age 30, Sarah Tibble, age 36, Sarah Agnes Tibble, age 2, all living at the same address. The occupations of the men are unfortunately illegible. Thomas Tibble, Brewer, Bedhampton d. Feb. 1862 aged 52. Sarah Tibble d. June 1868 aged 63.

¹⁵ The 1871 census records George Lipscombe at the Wheelwright's Arms. He is described as a 'Labourer.' He is probably the same George Lipscomb who was previously at the Golden Lion.

By July 1877 William Pettitt,¹⁶ formerly of the Cricketer's Tavern, Stockheath, was at the premises acting as a beerhouse keeper and carpenter, and by 1893 the public house was under the control of Chichester Brewers George Henty & Sons, who supplied the public house with its beer.



The Home Stores, 1958, formerly the Wheelwright's Arms. *Alan Bell.*

The Wheelwright's Arms ceased trading as a public house sometime after the end of the First World War. The building itself was known for many years as the Home Stores grocery shop and also the offices and workshop of A.T.S. Tyre Fitters. It is noteworthy that the front of the building was clad in 'mathematical tiles' but unfortunately these have been rendered or painted over. Mathematical tiles have been part of Britain's architectural heritage since the early 1700's. They were probably first introduced to update and make weather tight old timber framed buildings and there are many buildings with tile facades still in existence, a fine example locally can be

¹⁶ William Pettitt (b.1835) son of Thomas Pettitt, innkeeper of the Belmont Tavern. In the 1871 census he was recorded as an innkeeper and jobbing carpenter at the Cricketer's Tavern, Stockheath.

seen at Davies chemist shop in West Street, Havant. Mathematical tiles are not always easy to recognise and are often mistaken for conventional brickwork.

THE KINGS HEAD & BREWERY

Another public house on the main Bedhampton Road, formerly part of the Cosham-Chichester Turnpike Road, was the Kings Head, situated close to the railway on the northern side of the road leading to Havant. The inn probably came into being in the early part of the 19th century and it is first recorded in any detail when on the 30th December 1846 the Odd Fellowship, Manchester Unity, opened a new lodge at the King's Head Inn, Bedhampton, to be called the Loyal Belmont Lodge.¹⁷ Advertisements in the local press from this period onwards advertised several sales at the inn, with timber sales from Bedhampton Park being regularly held as the following examples show:

TO TIMBER & WOOD DEALERS

Mr Charles Lewis will SELL by AUCTION, at the KING'S HEAD INN, Bedhampton, on Friday, the 23 July, 1847, at six o'clock in the evening – Three hundred and fifty prime Oak Timber Trees, three thousand good flitters, one hundred and fifty cord of Oak Wood, thirteen thousand Oak BUNTS, ONE THOUSAND Oak Faggots, arranged in convenient Lots, and now lying in Bells Coppice and Beech Wood in the parish of Bedhampton, to view apply to Mr Kibble, Upper Bedhampton Park Farm, and particulars of Mr C. Lewis, Auctioneer, Land Surveyor, Estate Agent, Agent to the Hants, Sussex and Dorset Fire Office, and to the United Kingdom Cattle Insurance Co., Havant, Hants.

Hampshire Advertiser, 10th July 1847

¹⁷ *Hampshire Advertiser*, 3rd Oct. 1846.

BELMONT

TO be SOLD by AUCTION BY Mr. C. Lewis, on Friday next, the 19th of May, 1854, at Three O'clock, at the Kings Head Inn, Bedhampton. Several large size YEW or other TREES, a very handsome strong Grey Carriage Horse, quiet to ride or drive, 17 hands, well calculated for Cab or Brougham; capital Dark-brown Cob, 13 hands, quiet to ride or drive; a very excellent Dark-brood Mare, in foal; a very superior Yearling Black Colt, quite a picture; and a very useful Brown Pony; sets of Carriage Harness nearly new, Saddles and Bridles, and numerous Stable Requisites.

May be viewed by applying to Mr. Powell, at Belmont Lodge

Hampshire Telegraph, 13th May 1854

OAK, ASH, PINE, SCOTCH & SPRUCE TREES, Faggots and Bunts in Bells Copse and Farm Rows, Bedham[pton] Park or Dunsbury Hill Farm, in the Parish of Bedhampton, Hants.

Mr. C. Lewis will SELL by AUCTION, at the Kings Head Inn, Bedhampton, on Thursday, the 4th of June, 1857, at Four O'clock – 77 Superior Spiny OAK TREES, some of large dimensions, 200 ASH TREES, 1,000 Spruce, Pine and Scotch Fir Trees, and 2,000 good Frame Faggots and Bunts.

May be viewed by applying to Mr. Watts on the Premises.

Hampshire Telegraph, 30th May 1857

The inn was associated for many years with the brewery that bore its name and in the Bedhampton census for 1851, James Gad is listed as a brewer and victualler at the King's Head and by 1859 it is recorded that he was brewing on the site and employing three men.¹⁸ After James Gad's death in 1865 the brewery and inn were put up for sale and after this date William Hopwood is recorded at the property. The sales particulars for this sale in May 1866 describe the property as:

The King's Head, Bedhampton, possessing every accommodation for business. Detached Spirit and Beer Cellars, Skittle-alley, and kitchen fitted

¹⁸ James Gad died 1865 and was replaced by William Hopwood who is recorded on the 1871 census for the King's Head as a Licensed Victualler age 48. It is unclear if Hopwood was a tenant or owner.

*with a bread-baking oven, Three Tenements adjoining. A well-arranged 5 Quarter Brewery, excellent fixed Plant, large paved Tun room, Stabling, Yard with Gate entrance, extensive Garden and Out-buildings.*¹⁹

In June 1869, preliminary notices in the local press advertised an upcoming sale of the inn and brewery but it is not clear if a sale went through at this stage. Two years later, in August 1871, the King's Head public house, along with the small five-quarter brewery attached, were acquired by brewer Henry Davy.¹⁷ Davy, a former Portsmouth brewer was also at this time brewing at the nearby Prince of Wales Brewery in West Street, Havant. The sales particulars for the sale on the 22nd August 1871 record the brewery and public house as follows:

The property comprises a five-quarter brewery, a public house, containing bar, tap, parlour, four bedrooms, two attics, pantry, and cellar, with detached kitchen, cellar, club-room, skittle alley, and gardens together with three four roomed cottages, cart house, and blacksmith's shop.

In October 1873, it would appear that Davy sold the premises to Portsmouth Brewers Garrett & Co²⁰ the licensee being at this time William Symes. A succession of licensees followed until in August 1890 the King's Head finally closed in unfortunate circumstances. The *Hampshire Telegraph* for the 30th August 1890 recorded that at a meeting of the Licensing Committee at Fareham:

The King's Head, Bedhampton and the Ship, Emsworth were shut up owing to the alleged improper conduct of the licensees. All through the session it was evident that the Magistrates intend enforcing the law very strictly in the future, and that the slightest slip on the part of the publican will place the licence of the house in great jeopardy.

¹⁹ *Hampshire Telegraph*, 28th April 1866. The advertisement records a tenant in place at the property at this time.

²⁰ Garret & Co. bought by Brickwoods & Co. in 1887 along with 70 tied outlets.

The report went onto say:

The police opposed the renewal of the licence of the King's Head, Bedhampton on the ground that the holder, Mr. Murray, conducted his business in a disorderly manner and Sergeant James of Havant said that the King's Head was the worst conducted house in the neighbourhood.

The King's Head never again reopened as a public house, the brewery it would appear had closed sometime before and by the time of the 1891 census for Bedhampton the property is recorded as uninhabited.²¹ It is unclear when the inn was demolished but the site is now occupied by modern housing. Unfortunately nothing remains of the King's Head or the brewery attached to the public house but the sales particulars in the local press, advertising the sale of the property, leave us with a good description of what was going on at the site during the mid 19th century:

**IMPORTANT TO BREWERS, CAPITALISTS & OTHERS
HIGHLY DESIRABLE PROPERTY.**

For many years in the occupation of Mr. Gad, deceased, comprising the well-known and much frequented PUBLIC HOUSE, called "THE KING'S HEAD," situate in the main road from Portsmouth to Havant, Together with the BREWERY, TENEMENTS, & OUT-BUILDINGS. Mr. George M. Beck is instructed by the Mortgagees to SELL by PUBLIC AUCTION, ON THE Premises, as above, on Thursday, May the 17th, 1866, at Two for Three o'clock in the Afternoon, in One Lot.

The whole of the COPYHOLD PREMISES Comprising an old-established PUBLIC HOUSE For many years known by the sign of the "KING'S HEAD," Bedhampton, possessing every accommodation for business. Detached Spirit and Beer Cellars, Skittle alley, and kitchen, fitted with a bread-baking oven. THREE TENEMENTS, Adjoining, A well-arranged 5-QUARTER BREWERY, Excellent fixed Plant, large paved Tun-room, Stabling, Yard with gate entrance, extensive Garden and Out-buildings.

Hampshire Telegraph, 28th April 1866

²¹ The other public house mentioned, the Ship, Emsworth, did in fact reopen.

PRELIMINARY ANNOUNCEMENT BEDHAMPTON, HANTS.
IMPORTANT TO BREWERS, CAPITALISTS, & OTHERS
HIGHLY DESIRABLE PROPERTY

For many years in the occupation of Mr. Gad, deceased, comprising the well-known and much frequented PUBLIC HOUSE, called "THE KING'S HEAD," situate in the main road from Portsmouth to Havant, Together with the BREWERY, TENEMENTS, & OUT-BUILDINGS, Which Mr. George Beck is instructed to SELL by AUCTION, at his Property Sale Rooms, No. 9, Queen Street, Portsea, during the present month. Further particulars in next week's paper, or in the meantime of Mr. George, Solicitor, Portsea; Messrs Edgcombe & Cole, Solicitors, Portsea; or the Auctioneer at his Offices, Queen Street, Portsea.

Hampshire Telegraph, 26th June 1869

BEDHAMPTON, One mile from Havant Station,
KING'S HEAD BREWERY, PUBLIC HOUSE & THREE COTTAGES

Messrs C.B. Smith & Goldsmith will SELL by AUCTION on the premises, on Tuesday, August 22nd, 1871, at Two o'clock in the afternoon, - All those valuable premises known as the KING'S HEAD BREWERY, Situate in the village of Bedhampton, near the improving town of Havant. The property comprises a five-quarter brewery, a public house, containing bar, tap, parlour, four bedrooms, two attics, pantry, and cellar, with detached kitchen, cellar, club-room, skittle alley, and gardens together with three four roomed cottages, cart house, and blacksmith's shop. If the above property be sold, the purchaser will have the option of taking all the fixed and rolling plant, comprising two six-barrel coppers, force pump, horse mill, mash tun, hop strainer, vats, barrels, etc., at a valuation to be made in the usual way, by two valuers or their umpire, or if the purchaser shall decline to take the same, it will then be immediately offered for Sale by Auction, of which catalogues may be had of the Auctioneers. Particulars and conditions of sale may be had of:

R.W. Ford, Esq., Solicitor, St. Thomas's-street, Portsmouth.

Messrs Turner & Son, Solicitors, 78 Leadenhall-street, London.

Messrs Smith, Fawden, & Low, Solicitors, 12 Bread-street, Cheapside,
London. Or the Auctioneers, Portsea & Fareham.

Hampshire Telegraph, 19th August 1871

THE BELMONT TAVERN

Formerly the most prominent public house in Bedhampton, The Belmont Tavern stood on the corner of Portsdown Hill Road and Bedhampton Hill Road and took its name from the nearby Belmont Park Estate. The tavern itself appears to have opened as a beerhouse in about the mid 1860s under the management of Thomas Pettitt, formerly for 25 years a warder and master baker at the Portsmouth Convict Prison. The Belmont Tavern may at this date have taken a lot of its trade from the workers who were constructing the forts on Portsdown Hill at this time.²²

The tavern was at this stage being leased by Chichester brewer George Henty from Joseph West. (see refusal of spirit licence, 1868, 1870).²³ It would appear that the tavern was supplied by beer and stayed under the control of George Henty (merged with G.S. Constable in 1921) until 1955 when the tavern was acquired by Tamplins (Brighton). It is unclear if brewery actually acquired the ownership of the public house before or after the death of Joseph West in 1879.²⁴

Twice Thomas Pettitt applied for a spirit licence and twice he was refused as the following articles from the Hampshire Telegraph testify:

²² The forts on Portsdown Hill were built as a result of the 1859 Royal Commission, as part of a series of fortifications built to defend Portsmouth and its dockyard (which is 8 kilometres away) from a possible attack from inland. Six forts were completed by 1868.

²³ Joseph Nicephorus West (d.1879) local landowner and farmer who leased the nearby Belmont Farm from the Belmont Estate.

²⁴ Henty & Constable, Brewers, Westgate, Chichester. George Henty and later Henty & Constable also supplied beer at the Golden Lion and Wheelwright's Arms in Bedhampton.

Havant Borough History Booklets



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FAREHAM PETTY SESSIONS (24.8.1868) REFUSAL OF LICENCE,
"BELMONT TAVERN," BEDHAMPTON

Mr. Cousins applied for a licence for the "Belmont Tavern", at Bedhampton, in the occupation of Mr. Pettitt. This house was described as being situated at the corner of the road leading to Stakes, and a photograph was produced to show that it possessed the ordinary requirements necessary in a licensed house. Mr. Pettitt was described as being of excellent character, he having been 25 years chief warder and master baker in the convict prison at Portsmouth. He produced certificates of character from Captain Rose and Rev. Mr. Banks, and also a numerous signed memorial from the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. In addition to the indoor accommodation, which was described as being perfect, there was, in addition, stabling for 14 horses. Mr. Cousins stated that there was considerable traffic past the house on the main road to and from Portsmouth, and that if a licence were granted it would be of great advantage to the public. A paper was produced purporting to be a copy of certain resolutions submitted to the consideration of a Vestry at Bedhampton with references to the application, and which those of opposite views appeared to be equally divided. It was first proposed that it was desirable that a licence should be granted for this particular house, and an amendment was thereupon submitted to the effect that it was undesirable to increase the number of either licensed houses or beershops in the neighbourhood, and for each four voted, the Vicar, who presided, remaining neutral. Mr. Cousins commented on the conduct of the Vestry somewhat severely, remarking that the propriety or otherwise of granting licences had been vested in the magistrates, and that, therefore, it was beyond the province of any body of men convened together in the capacity of a Vestry to interfere in the matter. – The application was refused.

Hampshire Telegraph, 26th August 1868

FAREHAM PETTY SESSIONS (22.8.1870)
REFUSAL OF LICENCE, "BELMONT TAVERN," BEDHAMPTON

This was an application on the part of Mr. Field for a licence for the "Belmont Tavern" at Bedhampton, at present occupied as a beerhouse by Mr. Thomas Pettitt. – Mr. Field in making the application, said the house was rented by Mr. Pettitt from Messrs Henty, the brewers who leased the premises from Joseph West. It was double fronted, and in every way suitable for a spirit licence, containing bar, bar parlour, bed rooms, and all the necessary accommodation, and was rated at £25, the rent being the same, although when the house was not held by the brewers, the rent was £45. He produced several testimonials from the principal officers of the Portsmouth Convict Prison, that went to show that during a very long time the applicant had held a very high character as warder, principal warder, and master baker in that establishment and presented a memorial signed by many residents in the neighbourhood in favour of the granting of the licence on the grounds of the necessity for another spirit house, the nearest on one side being the "New Inn," at Drayton, which was two miles distant. – The magistrates refused the application.

Hampshire Telegraph, 24th August 1870

For over forty years the tavern was in the hands of the Parvin family - William Parvin (aged 28) is first recorded there in June 1881, after taking over the license from Ann Sharp. Parvin kept the public house as landlord until his death at the age of 56 in 1910 when his wife, Kate, kept the inn for many more years. William Parvin was a well-known character in Bedhampton, as well as acting as landlord of the Belmont Tavern he was also described as a cab proprietor as well as keeping pigs at his premises, presumably behind the public house. The pig keeping was not a great success for in July 1884 and December 1890 swine fever was found at the premises and his animals destroyed. A photograph and a painting of the Belmont Tavern, both dated around 1908 show William Parvin standing outside of the entrance to the public house, clearly seen can be his name above the door.

FAREHAM LICENSING SESSIONS (30.10.1871)
TRANSFER OF LICENCE, "BELMONT TAVERN," BEDHAMPTON

Mr. Burbidge (Cousins and Burbidge) applied for a temporary transfer of the license for this house from Thomas Pettitt to Benjamin Buck. Superintendent Drew said the application amounted to one for a fresh certificate, but the notices had not been properly served. The Chairman asked what can be said to the applicant's character? Mr. Buck said he had not come provided with any testimonials, not thinking any would be required. Mr. Burbidge said the man was highly respectable, and could easily procure references and testimonials. The Chairman: But we do require very strict proof of character. Mr. Drew said the applicant had been some years in the employment of Mr. Gibbons, at Bedhampton, and was a man of excellent character. P.S. Byles, the officer in charge of the police at Havant, corroborated the superindents statement. The Chairman: I do not think we should depend entirely on the recommendation of the police. I think we should have testimonials in the usual form, and I have no doubt he will be able to produce them. After further conversation, the application was adjourned until the 18th of September, in order that the testimonials as to character might be produced.²⁵

Hampshire Telegraph, 2nd September 1871

PERMITTING DRUNKENNESS
WILLIAM PARVIN OF THE "BELMONT TAVERN," BEDHAMPTON

William Parvin was summoned for permitting drunkenness on the premises. – P.C. Puttman said on the evening of Saturday the 18th of June, he was at Bedhampton, when he heard shouting, and on looking in at the defendant's door he saw a man (convicted last Bench day) very drunk and creating a great disturbance. Later in the evening the defendant brought the man out into the road, and witness took him away. He afterwards spoke to the defendant on the subject, when he replied that the man did

²⁵ Benjamin Buck duly produced his references and testimonials as he was still recorded in a directory for Bedhampton as an innkeeper at the Belmont Tavern in 1875.

not hurt anybody. There was no previous complaint about the house. – Defendant said the man did not have the beer in his house. The magistrates inflicted a fine of 20s. and 9s. costs.

Hampshire Telegraph, 13th July 1881

FAREHAM LICENSING SESSIONS. WILLIAM PARVIN OF THE
“BELMONT TAVERN,” BEDHAMPTON

William Parvin, “Belmont Tavern,” Bedhampton, appeared before the Bench, the renewal of his licence being opposed by Superintendent Brewer on the ground that he was convicted at Havant on January 31st and fined 2s. 6d. and 10s. costs for supplying a constable with beer while the policeman was on duty. Mr. Brewer gave particulars of the conviction, and added that the landlord had kept the house for twelve years without complaint, and had since January 31st conducted his business to the entire satisfaction of the police. Admiral Field (magistrate): You simply oppose the renewal under instruction? – The Superintendent: That is so Sir, and I may add that I consider the constable was more to blame than the landlord. – The magistrates renewed the licence.

Hampshire Telegraph, 26th August 1893

The Belmont Tavern finally closed in the early 1970s and the road was widened and a roundabout placed there. Soon after its closure a replacement public house was built further back along the road towards Havant. This in turn closed and is now the Imperial Palace Chinese Restaurant.



The Belmont Tavern from an original painting of 1908.



The Belmont Tavern, circa 1908.



The Imperial Palace Chinese Restaurant, formerly the second Belmont Tavern. November 2012



The Belmont Tavern, 1971



The Belmont Tavern, circa 1908. The landlord, William Parvin, is standing in front of the public house. (*Picture costen.co.uk collection*).



The Belmont Tavern, 1950.

THE CROWN

Apart from a map reference of 1865 not a great deal is known of this former beerhouse. It appears to have been worked by the father and son team of Noah and Edmund King, who were recorded as brewers and beer retailers in Bedhampton. In the 1851 census for Bedhampton they are recorded close to the chalk quarry area of the village. The public house itself was situated at the edge of the chalk pit on Portsdown Hill Road, close to where the Bowling Alley and Homebase DIY Store are now located. At one time it probably served the men who worked at the quarry and possibly the fortifications on Portsdown Hill and closed sometime before the turn of the new century (*see Sherborne Arms*). Noah King²⁶ obviously struggled financially with his business at Bedhampton for in February 1854 he signed over all his effects and property to various creditors he owed money to as *The Times* stated from a Notice of 24 February 1854:

NOTICE is hereby given, that NOAH KING, of the parish of Bedhampton, in the county of Southampton, brewer, retailer of beer, and yeoman, hath by indenture of release and assignment, bearing date the 17th day of February, 1854, and made between the said Noah King, of the first part, Henry Jarman, of Denmead, in the parish of Hambleton, in the said county, miller and maltster, George Rake, of Langstone, in the parish of Havant, in the said county, hop merchant, and George Palmer, of Stockheath, in the said parish of Havant, yeoman of the second part, and several other persons whose names and seals shall be thereunto subscribed and set, being respectively creditors of the said Noah King, of the third part, CONVEYED, Assigned, and assured all the REAL and PERSONAL ESTATE and EFFECTS, whatsoever and wheresoever, unto the said Henry Jarman, George Rake, and George Palmer, in trust, for the equal benefit of themselves and the rest of the creditors of the said Noah King who shall execute the said indenture within three months from the day of the date thereof, which indenture was

²⁶ Noah King (1804–1874) son of Ambrose and Mary King of Bedhampton. As a widower in 1869 he married Elizabeth Scriven, widow of John Scriven of the Woodman Inn, Purbrook. He is recorded as a beer retailer at the Woodman Inn until his death in 1874.

duly executed by the said Noah King, Henry Jarman, George Rake, and George Palmer on the 17th day of February in the presence of, and attested by, Joseph Walker, of the City of Chichester, solicitor; and notice is hereby further given, that the said indenture of assignment now lies at the offices of Messrs Walker and Son, at Havant, for the creditors signatures.

WALKER and SON, Trustees Solicitors Havant, February 17th 1854

It appears that the brewing business, then known as the Bedhampton Brewery was sold off in April 1854 and a further sale took place on the 28th September 1854 of 1,200 gallons of beer, malt, hops and other plant of the brewing business. The *Hampshire Telegraph* duly recorded the auction sales:

TO BREWERS, RETAILERS OF BEER & OTHERS
BEDHAMPTON, NEAR PORTSDOWN HILL.

To be SOLD by AUCTION by Mr. Charles Lewis, at the King's Head Inn, Bedhampton, on Tuesday, the 11th day of April, 1854, at Three o'clock in the afternoon (subject to such conditions of sale as will then be produced), in one Lot, - All that compact FOUR-QUARTER BREWERY, in full Trade, brewing 30 quarters of malt a month, or thereabouts, together with the DWELLING-HOUSES and all requisite and convenient Out-buildings adjoining and belonging thereto, and on which a very lucrative family and retail trade has been for many years past carried on. There is a supply of excellent water, and the premises are well adapted to the general purposes of the trade. Also TWO COTTAGES, with gardens and outlets adjoining thereto.

The Plant and Fixtures in and about the Brewery, Messuages, and Premises are to be taken by the purchaser at a fair valuation.

To any person possessed of a moderate capital, and desirous of embarking in the above lines of business, which might be considerably extended, a rare opportunity is presented. Immediate possession of the Business Premises may be had.

*Hampshire Telegraph, 8th April 1854.*²⁷

²⁷ One interesting point relating to this sale is the supply of excellent water. In the later sale of September 1854 a water cart is listed, as water would have been brought up from a spring at the bottom of Portsdown Hill.

To Brewers, Retailers of Beer, and Others
Bedhampton, near Portsdown Hill

Sale by Auction of about 1,200 gallons of very prime sound Beer, a quantity of Malt and Hops, the Rolling Plant, Live and Dead Stock, Ricks of Barley, Hat, Straw, etc.

Mr. C.B. Smith having disposed of the Bedhampton Brewery, late the property of Mr. Noah King is instructed by the Assignees, to SELL by AUCTION, on the premises, on Thursday, September 28th, 1854, at twelve o'clock, - The whole of the ROLLING PLANT, consisting of two 25-barrel vats, 35 puncheons, six 36-gallon casks, a quantity of hogsheads, half-hogsheads, 18 gallon casks, 9 gallon casks, 6 gallon casks, and 41/2 gallon casks, stillions, beer stands, etc. The stock of very capital sound Beer, comprising about 1,200 gallons, brewed principally for private families, in first rate condition; a quantity of malt and hops, two useful cart horses, four pigs, three carts, water cart, malt mill, wheelbarrow, ladders, buckets, tubs, grindstone in frame, gig and cart harness, and miscellaneous effects. Also a rick of prime barley, a rick of well-saved clover hay, about six tons; part of a rick of barley straw etc.

Hampshire Telegraph, 23rd September 1854

It appeared that what business Noah King still possessed was transferred over to his son Edmund in January 1857, including the Crown beerhouse. In August 1857 Edmund King was brought in front of the magistrates for failure to settle an account of £13 16s. for two orders of hops which were originally acquired under his father's name. The jury found for the plaintive and Edmund King was ordered to settle the bill. Trouble it appeared seemed to follow Edmund King around for in February 1860, he was arrested and tried for the crime of stealing nineteen fowls in Havant as the *Hampshire Telegraph* duly recorded:

HAVANT PETTY SESSIONS (7.2.1860)

ARREST OF THE LANDLORD OF THE CROWN, BEDHAMPTON

Thomas Martin, John Hoar, and Edmund King, the landlord of the Crown beerhouse, Bedhampton, were charged with stealing 19 fowls, value 2 guineas, the property of Mr. Foster, of Havant. The fowls were missed on the morning of Tuesday, the 31st, and the fact communicated to the police. Constable and superintendent went to work, and from information they obtained, the latter went to King's house, and after an examination elicited from him that he had sold some fowls that he had bought from Martin and Hoar. Martin, when taken into custody, said he and Hoar were asked by King if they could get any fowls, he would take them if they could get 40. He agreed to go to Foster's and get some, which they did, King lending them the sack. The sack was found at King's covered in blood and feathers. The prisoners were committed to trial, bail being refused.

Hampshire Telegraph, 11th February 1860

In March 1860 both Edmund King and John Hoar were convicted of the theft of the fowls and both received six months imprisonment. This, unfortunately, was not the last of Edmund King's misdemeanours for in May 1862 he was again charged and brought in front of the magistrates Bench. This time he was charged with harbouring and employing Enos King, a relative, a Marine Artilleryman, knowing him to be a deserter from her Majesty's service. Edmund King denied harbouring and employing Enos King stating that he gave the deserter 'beer and victuals' and remarked that '*as you have nothing else to do you may as well clean the horses.*' Enos King, in his defence claimed that he '*slept in the stable and brewhouse but did not consider himself employed by him*' The defence claimed that Edmund King acted indiscreetly, but not with a guilty knowledge. Unfortunately this did not sway the Bench who fined Edmund King £30 or six month's imprisonment.²⁸

It was probably due to the outcome of the above case that on the 1st of August 1862 the Crown beerhouse, formerly occupied by Edmund King, was put up for sale for auction at the Bear Inn in Havant:

²⁸ *Hampshire Telegraph, 7th June 1862.*

BEDHAMPTON, HANTS.
TO BREWERS, RETAILERS OF BEER & OTHERS

To be SOLD by AUCTION, by Mr. Laker, at the Bear Inn, Havant, on Friday, the 1st day of August, 1862, at Three o'clock in the Afternoon precisely, - All that DWELLING HOUSE, WITH THE Yard and Garden thereto belonging, and the Brewery, Cellars, Stores, Mill-house, and other Buildings, and the Strip of Land adjoining thereto.

And also, the Two Cottages or Tenements and Gardens and Wood-house belonging thereto, all which said premises are situate at Bedhampton and on the south side of the highway leading from the turnpike road to Portsdown, and have been for many years successfully occupied by Edmund King as a Brewer and Retailer of Beer, and from their continuity to the new Fortifications cannot fail to command an extensive trade.

Hampshire Telegraph, 19th July 1862

No further information relating to the Crown beerhouse is recorded after this date and it is likely that the beerhouse closed sometime after this date or for a short period re-opened as the Sherborne Arms. The 1871 census for Bedhampton for the chalk pits area does not record any beerhouse or any connection to brewing. The only remaining link are brick lined vaults or cellars cut into the chalk in the former quarry which may have once been connected to the Crown, apart from this no other information can be found.²⁹ During WWII the quarry was used as a depot for armoured fighting vehicles on the run up to D-Day, and after the war it was used as a war department scrapyard. Today the site houses a small retail park, and the vaults are more or less lost.

SHERBORNE ARMS

Taking its name from the one time lord of the manor of Bedhampton, this beerhouse was situated on the road leading from Bedhampton to Portsdown Hill in the parish of Bedhampton and belonged to the Chichester brewers

²⁹ *Hampshire Treasures*, Bedhampton, 1977 Vol. 7 Page 16, Historical Associations: Vaults, Portsdown Hill Road 'Brick lined vaults or cellars cut into chalk quarry. Probably associated with the Crown public house.

Messrs Henty & Sons. It would appear that at one time it took most of its trade from the workers who were constructing the defence forts on the top of Portsdown Hill. In September 1866 the landlord Samuel Speakman applied for a spirit licence to be attached to the beerhouse and *'it was urged that the increased traffic consequent upon the erection of the forts in the neighbourhood rendered it desirable that additional accommodation should be afforded.'*³⁰ His application was turned down by the magistrates with what it seemed was the backing of the local populace when at a Vestry meeting for the Parish:

It was resolved unanimously that the population of this Parish being about 600 and there existing at present two inns and many beerhouses it is the wish of the Parish assembled that the number of inns and beerhouses be reduced rather than increased which is in accordance with the desire of the Authorities in charge of the defence works now being executed on Portsdown Hill – as understood by the Parishioners.

The following year, 1867, Samuel Speakman applied again for a licence and again his application was refused as the *Hampshire Telegraph* recorded:

FAREHAM PETTY SESSIONS, 26.8.1867,
REFUSAL OF SPIRIT LICENCE THE "SHERBOURNE ARMS."
BEDHAMPTON

Mr. T.Cousins supported the application for a licence for this house, on behalf of the occupier, Samuel Speakman. The applicant had been in the house for four years, and kept it as a beerhouse since March 1866. It was the property of Messrs Henty & Sons, of Chichester, and no complaint had ever been made as to the manner in which the business had previously been conducted. It was urged that the premises were in every sense suitable to afford the accommodation required in a licensed house. There was also stabling for three horses, and there was considerable traffic, along the main road, and it was on the ground combined with the suitability of the premises and the respectability of the applicant, that the application was based. A memorial was presented in favour of the

³⁰ *Hampshire Telegraph*, 12th September 1866.

application; as also one agreed to at a Vestry meeting, in which the granting of another spirit licence in the neighbourhood was regarded as objectionable. – The application was refused.

Hampshire Telegraph, 28 August 1867

The origin of this beerhouse is shrouded in mystery; one theory is that it was the former Crown beerhouse, situated close to the chalk pits on Portsdown Hill Road, although this cannot be substantiated. The occupier and landlord Samuel Speakman had been at the property since 1862, the year the Crown beerhouse was sold and may have re-opened the beerhouse under the new name in 1866..

It is unclear when this beerhouse closed, probably some time after the refusal of the application for a spirit licence. No further information can be found for the premises after this date.

THE MYSTERY OF THE CAT & FIDDLE³¹

This notorious inn or beerhouse was thought to be situated on the northern side of the turnpike road leading from Bedhampton to Cosham, where it enjoyed views across the harbour. It was because of its location that it became reputedly the haunt of smugglers who used it to conceal their illicit cargoes. Little information is known about the inn, although one suggestion is that before and after its closure as a beerhouse it was known as Prospect Cottage and was later known as the Cat & Fiddle House and Hill House and was at one time the home of the Bedhampton Scoutmaster and author of *Janes Fighting Ships*, Frederick Jane.

It is unclear when the property actually was used as a public house, sales particulars throughout the early part of the nineteenth century record the property as a dwelling house with a field of about four acres of land adjoining under the name of Prospect Cottage.

³¹ Pubs of this name are known from the 16th century and were common in Hampshire.

TO be LET, - PROSPECT COTTAGE, pleasantly situated on the New Road at Bedhampton. A Field in front of the house, of about four acres, may be had with it, if desirable.

For particulars apply to Mr. Turner, High-street, Portsmouth.

Hampshire Telegraph, 4th May 1812

In 1821 it was described as:

Eligible residence called Prospect Cottage with cellar, pretty entrance with drawing, eating rooms, kitchen, scullery, offices, 5 bed chambers, 4.5 acres pasture land, garden and cow house, now in the occupation of Mr Freeland, tenant-at-will. The cottage came with the prescriptive right to two extra pews at the church.³²

The description was certainly not what you would describe as a typical beerhouse.

By the time of the Tithe Award in 1842 the property is owned by James Kay who also owned the Elms in the village of Bedhampton.³³ The occupiers on the Award, along with other property, are recorded as George Pincher and others. Certainly by 1855 Mrs Anne Stone is recorded at the property in a directory for Bedhampton and later occupiers of the property are recorded through the later part of the century. In 1910 Prospect Cottage was acquired by Frederick Jane who lived there for five years, renaming the property Cat and Fiddle House. After the occupancy of Frederick Jane the property became known as Hill House, until it was finally demolished in 1960.

It is possible that one occupier actually used the premises as a beerhouse. One newspaper report of 1960 stated that a former resident of Bedhampton, Mr. R. M. Treeve, who lived opposite Hill House for almost 60 years told the *Portsmouth Evening News* that:

I first remember the house as Prospect Cottage. It was occupied by Mrs Hurnett until 1910, when the late Frederick Jane, author of "Jane's Fighting Ships" purchased it and lived there for five years. He named it Cat

³² *Hampshire Telegraph*, 23rd May 1821

³³ James Kay purchased The Elms in 1841.

and Fiddle House, as the building is supposed to have been a public house of that name in bygone years.

Mr Treeve went further and added that he understood a family called Mitchell was involved with smuggling about 100 years ago at the property and *'that there is a large cellar that was probably used to store contraband'*.³⁴

Indeed William Mitchell³⁵ did reside at Prospect Cottage; the 1861 census for Bedhampton records him: aged 45 as a retired grocer living at the property with his wife and two sons. Interestingly a visitor is recorded as a dealer at the property on the same night as the census is recorded. So was this the time the property was used as a beerhouse called the Cat and Fiddle³⁶ and William Mitchell was indeed using the premises for illicit smuggling or was he living a quiet life as a retired grocer at the age of about 45.

It has to be mentioned that prior to the Wine and Beerhouse Act of 1869 it was also easy for anyone to open up a beerhouse at their property (see footnote 25). After 1869 stricter guidelines were brought in and licence holders came under the control of local magistrates who dealt with applications. These reasons are probably why the Cat and Fiddle beerhouse goes unrecorded and it is not mentioned in any local licensing sessions. In this case if the Cat and Fiddle beerhouse was situated at Prospect Cottage it was in existence probably for a short period before the intervention of the new Beerhouse Act of 1869.

³⁴ *Portsmouth Evening News*, 7th October 1960.

³⁵ A directory for Bedhampton, 1865 records William Mitchell residing at Gosling House, Bedhampton. William Mitchell (1815–77)

³⁶ Beerhouse Act 1830 – This allowed a householder, as assessed to the poor rate, to retail beer from his own house, on payment of two guineas. The purpose of the Act was to discourage the sale of spirits. The Wine and Beerhouse Act 1869 reversed the policy of 1830 meaning no new licence could be obtained without application to the licensing justices. Existing beer licences taken out under the 1830 Act were protected by a provision that the renewal could not be refused except on one or more specific grounds namely:

Failure by the applicant to produce satisfactory evidence of good character. The premises, or adjacent premises owned or occupied by the applicant, are of disorderly character, or frequented by thieves, prostitutes or persons of bad character, A licence previously held by the applicant has been forfeited for his misconduct, or that he has been disqualified by misconduct.

Around the same time William Mitchell was recorded at Prospect Cottage, a property further along the main road towards Farlington, known as the "SHEPHERD'S HUT" was being investigated due to the seizure of contraband spirits. The property known as the Shepherds Hut was a small isolated cottage situated on the north side of the road a little further towards Farlington church and Rectory.³⁷ The property stood opposite a track of what is now Forty Acres Farm. The track ran towards Forty Acres Farm and then to Chalk Dock and Chalkdock Lake and Farlington Marshes³⁸, a good dropping off spot for any would be smugglers. The property is recorded on the 1842 Tithe Award as belonging to the lord of the manor of Bedhampton, Lord Sherborne, whose land and property in Bedhampton was occupied by Woodthorpe Clarke, so it was highly likely that the property was sub-let.

The Shepherd's Hut almost carries as much mystery as its neighbour the Cat and Fiddle. One suggestion is that they were one and the same because of the recorded proof of smuggling at the Shepherd's Hut. This episode took place on Monday 7 February 1859 when:

A seizure of contraband spirits was made at the parish of Bedhampton, in a small cottage to the East of Farlington Church, known in the neighbourhood by the name of the Shepherd's Hut.

The report of the seizure was recorded in the *Hampshire Telegraph* which added:

On the morning above mentioned, at about 4.20, P.C. Corbin was passing along the road and saw a horse and cart opposite the cottage, two men were with the cart, and he saw them go backwards and forwards from the cart to the cottage carrying something, but as the morning was very dark he was unable to distinguish what they were carrying. He spoke to one of the men, and in answer to the question the man said that an accident had occurred, and that he was much injured in the side; the constable advised

³⁷ The property was still belonging to the parish of Bedhampton. Prospect Cottage was the nearest property on the road towards Bedhampton. A well to the property was situated on the south side of the road.

³⁸ The 6 inch O.S map (LXXVI), c.1870 covering Bedhampton/Farlington shows the track clear as it makes its way towards the marshes.

him to get to Cosham as soon as he could and obtain the assistance of a medical man, and then passed on. However, having a doubt in his mind, he shortly returned to the cottage, where on obtaining admission, he found 21 kegs consisting of brandy, which he seized. Being single handed he was unable to make any further search. The only person on the premises at the time of the seizure was a woman who gave the name of Mary Cole. On the arrival of assistance in the person of Sergeant of Police (Daniels), they proceeded to force open a door of a room in which the kegs were found, and which the woman said was occupied by her lodger. On entering the room it was found to contain two casks about half full, one containing about 18 gallons and the other six gallons of the same description of spirits as that in the kegs; in addition there was a still (not set up) colouring matter, measures, 22 empty kegs containing a small portion of brandy in each, all of which were seized and removed to the Havant Police Station. Information of the seizure was immediately forwarded to the Customs at Portsmouth, and on Tuesday the whole was removed and delivered into their custody.

The newspaper report went on to record that it was generally believed that there were many in the parishes of Bedhampton and Havant who were connected with the affair but were yet unknown. Of course, Mary Cole, the occupier of the house, stated that she knew nothing of it or that she even knew the men involved in carrying illicit cargo into her house.

Unfortunately it was only Mary Cole who was charged with the offence. At the Petty Sessions held at the Black Dog, Havant on the 25th February, 1859, Mary Cole was:

Charged on the information of William James Redpath, an officer of the Customs, with having on the 7th February been concerned in unshipping or otherwise dealing with certain prohibited, restricted or unaccustomed goods, to wit 138 and 210 gallons of spirits.³⁹ The report in the Hampshire Telegraph went on to say: Mary Cole pleaded guilty to the offence and the

³⁹ *Hampshire Telegraph*, 26th February 1859

prisoner was convicted in the full penalty, treble duty of goods amounting to £414 12s. and in default was committed to Winchester Gaol.

On the 29th March, 1859, at the Havant Petty Sessions, Mary Cole, still confined to Winchester Gaol, was charged with having in her possession a private still in complete working order. The Chairman, in delivering the judgement of the Court, said:

As the Bench had in the case before referred to inflicted the full penalty of £414 12s., they should in this case under the power given to them by the Act of Parliament, mitigate the penalty to one fourth, namely £50, but he made it clear that should a case of the same description occur again the full penalty would be inflicted.⁴⁰

The report of the trial at Havant was recorded in the local press who went on to state that Bryan Ward Gibbon, the then owner of the property, said:

I let the Shepherd's Hut to Mary Cole, in the month of May last at a weekly rent of 1s. She represented herself to be the wife of a sailor. She was tenant of the Shepherd's Hut on the 7th of February last". Mr. Gibbons continued: Since she has been in gaol in Winchester the rent has been paid. It was paid to my son two days since.

It was also proved that the property was not licensed or entered as a distillery suggesting that it may have been operating as an unlicensed beerhouse.

So who were the other 'persons unknown' who were also involved in the smuggling at the Shepherd's Hut – were they local men of Bedhampton and did they have any connection with Prospect Cottage? Unfortunately, we will probably never know. As for the Shepherd's Hut and the Cat and Fiddle the mystery at the moment remains.

The one certainty is that smuggling had taken place in the local vicinity of Langstone Harbour for many years, if not centuries, as the writer Charles G. Harper recorded in 1909:

⁴⁰ *Hampshire Telegraph*, 2nd April, 1859

Among the many smuggling nooks along the Hampshire coast, Langston Harbour was prominent, forming, as it does, an almost landlocked lagoon, with creeks ramifying toward Portsea Island on one side and Hayling Island on the other. There still stands on a quay by the water- side at Langston the old "Royal Oak" inn, which was a favourite gathering-place of the "free-traders" of these parts, neighboured by a ruined windmill of romantic aspect, to which no stories particularly attach, but whose lowering, secretive appearance aptly accentuates the queer reputation of the spot.

The reputation of Langston Harbour was such that an ancient disused brig, the Griper, was permanently stationed here, with the coastguard housed aboard, to keep watch upon the very questionable goings and comings of the sailor- folk and fishermen of the locality. And not only these watery folk needed watching, but also the people of Havant and the oyster-fishers of Emsworth. Here, too, just outside Havant, at the village of Bedhampton, upon the very margin of the mud, stands an eighteenth-century mill. It would have been profitable for the coastguard to keep an eye upon this huge old corn-milling establishment, if the legends be at all true that are told of it.⁴¹

Early Innkeepers and Brewers of Bedhampton as recorded in directories.

- 1722 – William Millett (Golden Lyon) – Victualler
- 1741 – John Neal of Bedhampton – Victualler
- 1760 – William Cook of Bedhampton – Brewer
- 1813 – Richard Young of Bedhampton – Innkeeper
- 1822 – William Jackson of Bedhampton – Innkeeper
- 1836 – James Gad of Bedhampton – Victualler
- 1840 – William Ayling of Bedhampton – Victualler
- 1841– George Temple of Bedhampton – Innkeeper
- 1842 – Henry Linter of Bedhampton – Victualler
- 1844 – Noah King of Bedhampton – Brewer
- 1851 – Sarah Bone – Brewer

⁴¹ The Smugglers: *Picturesque Chapters in the Story of an Ancient Craft* by Charles G. Harper, 1909.

1851 – Robert Lipscomb – Victualler
1851 – Thomas Tibble – Brewer
1851 – Edmund King of Bedhampton – Brewer
1851 – Noah King – Brewer
1865 – Andrew B. Hatch of Bedhampton – Brewer etc.
1865 – Thomas Pettitt – Innkeeper

1851 Census for Bedhampton

James Gad, 44 – Brewer & Victualler
Robert Lipscomb, 50 – Victualler
Sarah Bone, 67 – Brewer
Thomas Tibble, 40 – Brewer
Noah King, 47 – Brewer
Edmund King, 20 – Brewer

1861 Census for Bedhampton

Kings Head – James Gad, 54 – Victualler (employs 3 men)
Golden Lion – George Lipscomb, 25 – Victualler
Wheelwrights Arms – Thomas Tibble, 50 – Brewer

1871 Census for Bedhampton

Kings Head – William Hopwood 48 – Licensed Victualler
Golden Lion – Robert Lipscomb 70 – Licensed Victualler
Belmont Tavern – Thomas Pettitt 56 – Innkeeper
Wheelwrights Arms – George Lipscomb 37 – General Labourer

1881 Census for Bedhampton

Kings Head – Peter G. Smith, 43 – Public House Proprietor
Golden Lion – Robert Lipscomb, 81 – Innkeeper
Belmont Tavern – William Parvin, 28 – Beerhouse Keeper

1891 Census for Bedhampton

Kings Head – Uninhabited

Golden Lion – James Duke, 34 – Innkeeper

Wheelwrights Arms – William Pettitt, 50 – Carpenter & Joiner

Belmont Tavern – William Parvin, 37 – Cab Proprietor

1901 Census for Bedhampton

Belmont Tavern – William Parvin, 43 – Cab Proprietor

Golden Lion – Charles Messum, 50 – Innkeeper

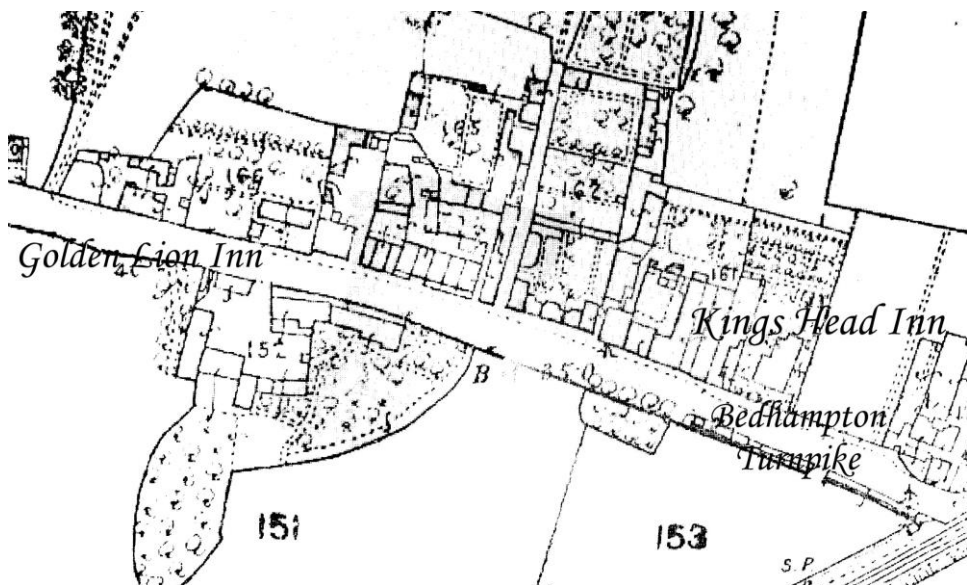
Wheelwrights Arms – William Pettitt, 65 – Joiner



The Rusty Cutter, November 2012. Bedhampton's newest public house.



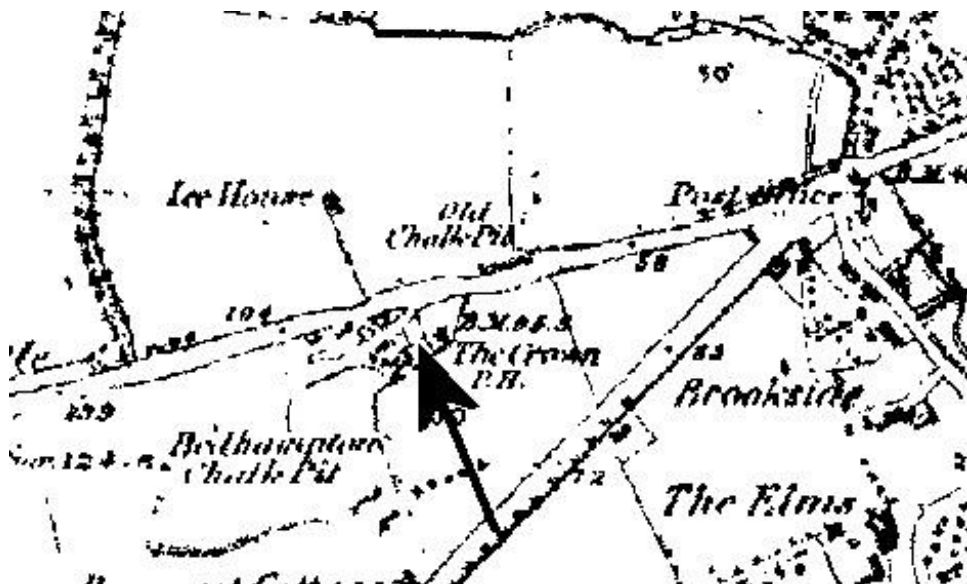
Aerial view of Bedhampton, 1927. At one time there were three public houses along the main road.



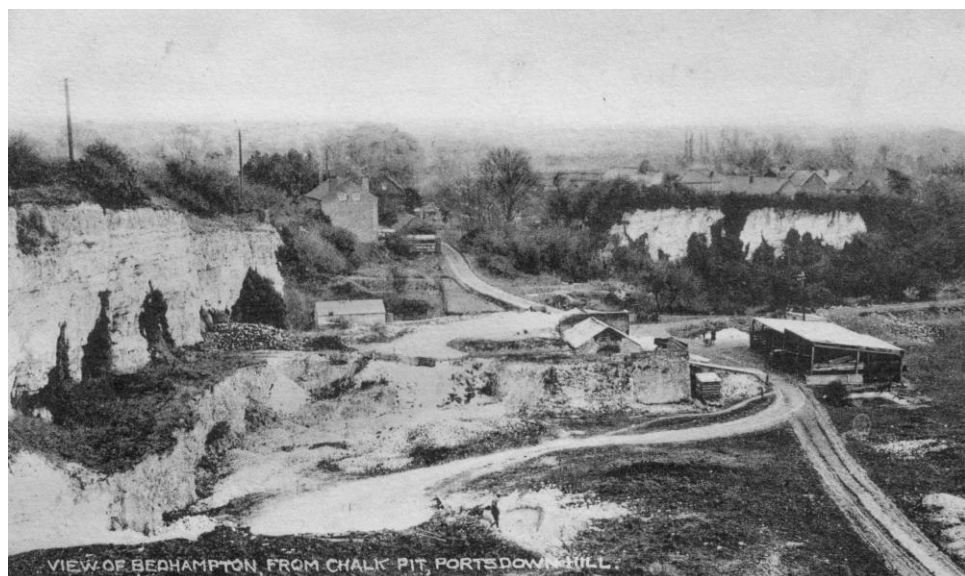
Map of Bedhampton c.1865 showing the Golden Lion and Kings Head Inns.



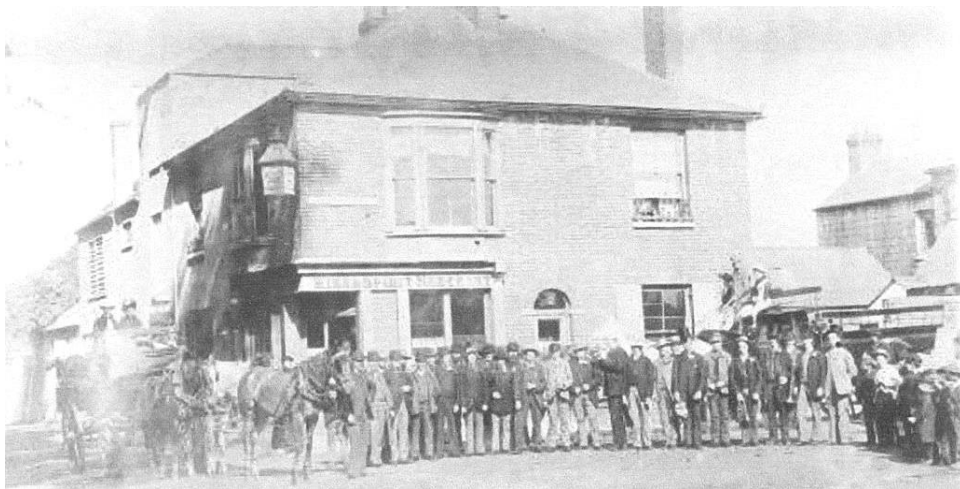
The Golden Lion, Bedhampton, circa 1900. (Alf Harris.)



Ordnance Survey map of circa 1865 showing the Crown Public House (arrowed) and the Bedhampton Chalk Pit.



View of the chalk pit circa 1910. (Alf Harris.)



The Prince of Wales circa 1906. The parish boundary curved across Staunton Road at this point so the pub and left half of the people are in Havant and the rest are in Bedhampton.



Biden & Co. Ltd. delivering to the Yew Tree Inn, Hayling Island.



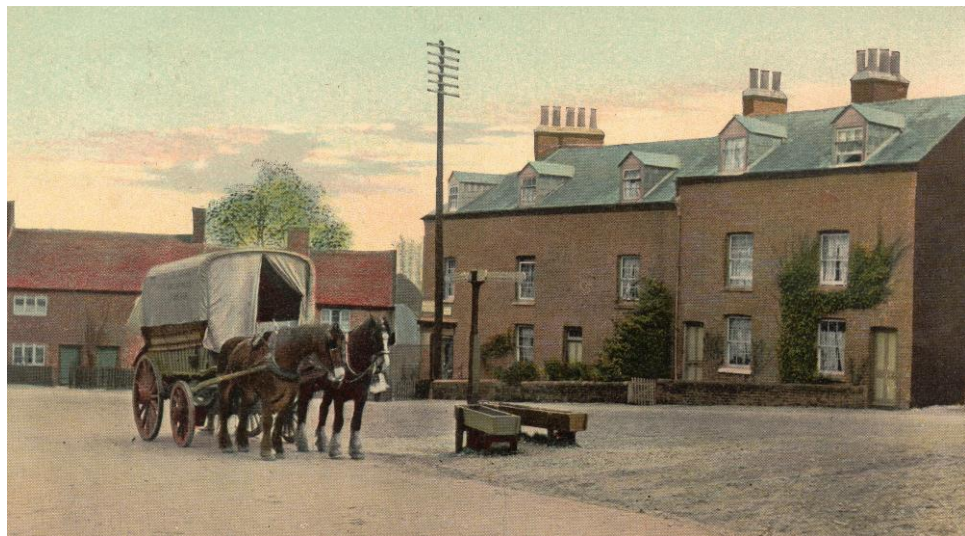
The Wheelwright's Arms, circa 1915.



Bedhampton Road, circa 1910 showing the Wheelwright's Arms.



The Swan Inn, 2006.



Belmont corner early 1900s.



The Prince of Wales, 2006.



*Kings Head
Bedhampton
18 Decr 1889*

Dear Mother

*I am sorry to inform
you that Agnes is very
ill. She drove to Portsmouth
a week yesterday & caught
a cold and now it has
turned to Nephthoria
& hope she will take
a turn soon for the better
as she is very low at present
Yours truly
William Murray*

